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Rockefeller Talks About His Job and Future

Exclusive Interview With The Vice President

EXCERPTS

Q Do you clear your travel and your speeches with him? A On my first trip for him, to make a speech in Chicago, there was quite a big press corps. I was sitting in the plane with the reporters, and they said, "Were you given a speech?" And I said, "No."

And they said, "Did the President tell you what he wanted you to say?" And I said, "No, he never talked about it. He just said he wanted me to make a speech."

And then they asked, "Well, did you get instructions from his staff?" And I said, "No. He just asked me to make the speech."

And he's asked me to make a lot of them. He's never said what he wanted me to say or not say. He's never given me any instructions except when he wants me to do something, like working on the CIA Commission. We have an extraordinary relationship.

Do you feel you've been the target of unfair backbiting by the White House staff?

O Could you cite several of the things you're working

A Sure. Bicentennial, CIA follow-up, the Capitol Hill